Sabath Evening 17th Sept

Dear Bella - I have thought of you every day since you
left, & every day thought I would begin a letter, but as I
knew I was not going to send it until after the 26th, I somehow
had no courage to begin, I was impatient to get your letter
Anne did send it tollerablely soon after she got it - no doubt
your lines to me kept it in mind, do thus again next
time. I am glad the place did not look so bad to you
as you expected. It would be vain & foolish & of no
use whatever for me to tell you how much I was
with you the day you left Boston, but I did not feel
so bad as I should had I not gone to Boston &
seen you. You will see by the Liberator that our
Society come up to the work in earnest. I think you
will like the resolutions. they passed nearly unanimously.
Caleb Stetson - Deacon Newcomb & a few others voted against
them. Mr P. preached this forenoon he made no allus-
ion to any thing that had passed, I hope he thinks by
this time that the less said the sooner
mended - I wish he would come out with a
recantation. but this is not to be expected yet
it would be the very best thing they could do for
their credit - & their souls. John Vinton preached this
afternoon, he prayed much & well for the Slaves, but his
sermon had no bearing on the subject as it had when he
preached here before. Caroline & Warren came down late
in the forenoon - Caroline went to Church this afternoon, she
thought John was in favour of the Appeal, but I did not
discover it - but he is a minister & so is to be doubted.
Caroline & Warren left at sunset taking Emma with them.
Nothing new has occured at Boston, they go on quite
straight as yet - I hope it may continue, as long as there
is life there is hope. There was a notice read this forenoon
of an adjourned meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society for next
Tuesday evening, & it mentioned that they would choose delega-
tes for the Quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts at Worcester.
Do not they go the whole figure. We expected E. Simpson
& Caroline at home Saturday to stay a few days, but Sylvia
has no help, & Elizabeth put it off. we shall expect them
next Saturday. I shall be writing a little at a time until
the 29th then I shall dispatch this to you. I wish I knew
where & how you are employed at this time. Good night
74 I hope you are at peace with yourself & all about you.

Thursday 28 Sept. Dear Deborah I did not think the day I wrote the first page to this sheet, that I should not write again until after our meeting. many things has prevented, but I will not take my time & paper to mention them. I will only mention one — Mother & Phebe have been sick a week of the time with the Cholera, but are as well as usual now. — Our meeting took place Tuesday 26 at the meeting-house, I made a call on the Perkins the last of the week to ask Mr P. for the house, & Mrs P. whether she would be willing to have the members of the Juvenile Society invited to meet with us. Neither of the higher powers were at home, & I left a message for them. The next morning Mr P. called at the door & told me that there would be no objection to our having the house & that he would mention it to the sexton. He also told me that he had lately a letter from Mr Phelps, & that he had no doubt that all things would be settled amicably in regard to the "Appeal". He did not say Appeal in so many words but that was the sense of his speech. I asked him (how? I cannot exactly give you his answer, but from it I inferred that we must have a new Organ to the Society. I looked him full in the face & said "Mr Perkins do you wish to put out Mr Garrison from being leader in this cause? Said he "no I go fully with him in the abolition cause — I am willing he should call things by their right names, but not that he should put his other sentiments into the Liberator, let him print another paper & there publish his sentiments to his hearts content!" I told him we had nothing to do with Garrisons sentiments on other subjects, & that no Editor had suffered so little of other matter into their paper, that there was a communication on the Sabbath question drawn forth by Dr Beecher. to this he said Mr Garrison has put in some things against foreign missions, this I denyed I had seen, in short I bore a decided testimony to my principles. Now for the meeting. We meet at 2 oclock. Mrs Perkins in the Chair, or rather at the head of her own pew, where she invited me to sit with her but I would not, but kept myself floating ready for any emergency — First read from Scripture. Mrs P. read. then she invited Rachel Corning to make the prayer, it was good but very methodistical but it was well — then had read the Rec. Secretarys reports of the last meeting, then the Corresponding Secretarys report & letters to the Society, one from the South Parish Female Society & one from Maria W. Chapman as one of the Counsellors of our Society, it was good, several dabs at the Appeal. Then Treasurers report. Mother had made a regular account & read it, which was accepted, likewise the Annual report was accepted — Then I offered 3 Resolutions one in regard to Garrison & the Liberator, one in regard to the Grimkes, & the third to have the proceedings of the meeting sent to the Liberator.

for publication — Mrs Perkins put them all in a lump
& they passed, but not unanimously. — We then proceeded to
the choice of officers — all the old officers except the Rec. Sec.
& as Lucretia resigned there was a new one chosen, there
was 1 nominated who would not accept — and I offered to
take the office — & you will perceive before I finish that it
was a most providential thing. Mrs Fifield then moved
that Mr Phelps be invited to address the Society, it was op-
posed in a small measure, but passed, & Mrs Fifield was
invited to write to Mr Phelps, for him to come at any time
to suit his own convenience. — Then Miss Rachel Cowing called
to me to mention that she moved that Mr Garrison be in-
vited to come out with Mr Phelps, I stated her request, Mrs
Perkins said to me I should rather not put that vote, I
told her I did not see that she could help doing it, so she put
it & it went — Rhoda Stetson was much excited about it
& said Mrs P. did not take the contrary minds. I told her to
state that & have the vote put again, she went & spoke to
Mrs P. who rose to put the vote again, I then moved as
there seemed some difficulty upon the question, to take the
vote by rising — she then put it & all rose but three 1
going out. she then called for the contrary minds & M. Perkins
R. Stetson & Mrs Caleb Hunt rose. We sung — prayed & adjourned.
In the evening I had Lucretia & M. Perkins by invite, & went to
bed tired out — This morning after we got our breakfast table set
Mrs Fifield came down to inform us that Mr & Mrs Perkins came
to her house last night, to tell her he wished her not to
write to Mr Phelps at present, as he (Mr P) had some ques-
tions to ask Mr Phelps, which if he answered to Mr P.'s sat-
isfaction, he might come, if not he should not be admitted
to his pulpit. There was some more talk, the Dr present all
the time, Mrs F. said she must write, she had no authority
not to do so, as it was a vote of the Society. said Mr P.
"I will call a meeting of the Society & have the vote reconsidered"
If I remember Mrs F. asked him if he would call a meeting
of the female Society, he then said Mrs P. would. I then understood
her to say that Mr P. wanted nothing done about our meeting
at present — to which I answered (Mr G. Pratt being by) "I
have written the proceedings of the meeting with the resolutions
which were passed. I shall send it to the Liberator this day with
my own name put to it as Secretary of the Society. —
said Mr Pratt "you have them fast". I could get no
chance to send it until this afternoons mail, when it
went directed to Anne to Henry's care — I expect Maria
will get it this evening, & read it of course, & if Garrison
is behind-hand with his paper, they will get it in this
week. This is as full a statements of facts as I can give in

one sheet of paper.— Now say what you think of all these proceedings? I call it high-handed. I had a letter from Anne by Sanfield Saturday evening — asking me to come in Wednesday morning as Caroline was going to Worcester & she wanted me. I could not manage to go — but planned to as soon as I could get a chance. Now I must stay here & see this battle fought out, & fight I shall — the cause here is now for the time being thrown on the Female Society. If Mrs P. calls a special meeting of the society, there will be a full one — as they will attend from motives of curiosity — & I can by no means answer for the majority of the society.

your black apron is found — will be sent the first chance —
all send much love.

Weymouth Mass
Sept 29
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Miss Deborah Weston
Care of Mr Josiah Bent
New Bedford.

Anne wrote me that the Philanthropist had come out in an improper manner, not altogether condemning Garrison, but almost. That Whittier was in Boston, but appeared shrinking from all responsibility — that the National Society were shrinking likewise — and that Theodore Weld had written many pages to Angelina Grimke advising her to stop the woman question — & she said "what does the boy mean"? Anne ~~may~~ have written you all this but I was afraid she had not. Write me as soon as you get this — all well as usual. your mother is here now
each yours